

Hem 49

Late Backup

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Transportation Security Administration may propose to install Advanced Image Technology (AIT) at the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA); and

WHEREAS, the Austin City Council supports the need to screen passengers to the best security reasonably and legally possible, and the City shares a partnership role with the Transportation Security Administration in pursuit of this goal as stipulated by federal law; and

WHEREAS, the AIT may not provide conclusively improved security measures which render ABIA passengers and customers safer; and

WHEREAS, the AIT health risks for passenger and screener, for short term and long term exposure, lack of health safety standards, and medical issues have not been conclusively evaluated; and

WHEREAS, privacy rights, especially for children, sexual assault victims, medical prosthetics users, senior citizens, women susceptible to breast cancer, pregnant women and other physical and/or emotional challenged travelers have not been satisfactorily addressed; and

WHEREAS, AIT scanning is optional, the remaining security screening choice is an “enhanced pat down” which airport customers across the nation have described as “humiliating,” “frustrating,” and “violating;” and

Late Backlog

WHEREAS, the impact on passenger screening operations at airport security checkpoints has been shown to increase security processing times compared to current standards, which may exacerbate flight delays and impact ABIA customer satisfaction; and

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2010, the Austin Airport Advisory Commission passed a resolution recommending that “the City Council oppose the installation of AITs at ABIA...;” and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Transportation Security Administration regulate federal security protocols at the city-owned and -operated ABIA; and

WHEREAS, in United States v. Guest, the U.S. Supreme Court acknowledged that: “The constitutional right to travel from one State to another, and necessarily to use the highways and other instrumentalities of interstate commerce in doing so, occupies a position fundamental to the concept of our Federal Union.” 383 U.S. 745, 757 (1996); **NOW THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Manager is directed to communicate with members of the Austin delegation of the U.S. Congress to request their assistance in:

and feedback

1. Determining if AIT places airport customers at greater health risks using full, independent and scientific inquiry; and

2. Establishing greater privacy rights controls for AIT use; and
3. Documenting the conclusive security benefits AIT may offer ABIA passengers; and
4. Recommending other technologies, such as the Automatic Target Recognition currently under testing in Las Vegas, Atlanta and Washington D.C., which may provide enhanced security benefits without the potential risks to ABIA passengers' public health or privacy rights.

ADOPTED: _____, 2011 **ATTEST:** _____
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk